C/DB

30 June

Frank, Multiple Imag Dat Printer

1. I think Dick has uncovered the real reservation on this item — Is there a bonafide requirement? IIMS

2. I thought there was when the job was begun — following are the supporting facts: Beneficial

a. Image integration has been established theoretically and experimentally.

b. The potential degree of benefit is loosely defined theoretically and undefined experimentally.

c. Existing systems for integration image are not applicable to our acquisition materials

d. Electronic processing is capable of the versatility necessary for our materials but we do not know whether a net gain could be achieved through such a process and what the magnitude of this gain would be.

2

AT

e. The [redacted] contract calls for definition of the net gain potential, the time required, and the degree of flexibility of an electronic processing system which they could build — if the definition (accomplished through the feasibility study) is convincing and information gains are predicted to be significant, then we could proceed to build such a device.

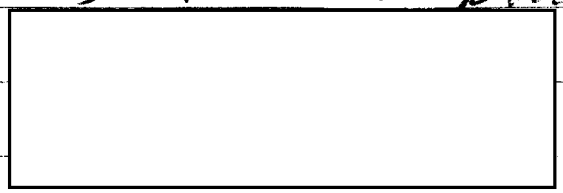
f. I question that such proof of significant potential has been accomplished by the feasibility study phase of this contract. I have worked some hours with [redacted] in trying to determine a means whereby we could get a definitive expression from them on these matters — and I believe he's done an excellent job but I'm still not confident of the significance of their performance expressions or their level of commitment to them. This would be [illegible] to get some

STA

evaluation from EDLB. I don't see that Dick's remarks have cleared the situation up any. I can easily go back to Dick and get more effort on this if that is justified.

2. The potential applications are for detailed analysis only, to ~~the~~ instances where several records of imagery (of the same object) by the same type of sensor with essentially the same quality are available — scale and distortion are variable. It could be applied to:

(1) B&W photos



The question is — "Is there enough application potential to justify the effort?"

4)

This is a matter for judgement. But I believe we should have a clear cut mandate from STA [redacted] or somebody before we go on. The money is already in the contract and STA [redacted] is awaiting a decision.

Approved For Release 2005/06/22 : CIA-RDP78B04770A000200010044-2

[redacted]

Re: [redacted] Multiple Image Integrator

I generally agree with [redacted] analysis; his condensation of the [redacted] papers is good. [redacted] appears to have studied the problem well, and reported it honestly.

I only have one reservation: is there is real requirement for such an instrument ? It appears to me that operting this "mother" will require a highly-skilled scientist - there is just so much one can automate and make colonel proof. Is the output from this device, which is admittedly little better (if at all) than enlargements from a good enlarger, going to be worth the price which must be spent on operating it ? If it is built, and installed in PSD (where else), do you think they are going to hire a GS-13 physicist or electronikker ? What I am driving at is simply this: we'd better make sure we have a real, genuine, bona fide, A-1 requirement which is pressing enough to warrant the attendant MPIC problems.

I am sure the device will work: not as optimistically, perhaps as [redacted] but they were always blue sky types anyhow. We'd probably find it useful provided we have operators for it.

[redacted]

27 June 1966